

McNairy County Farmers Reestablish Wildlife Habitat

Dick Godwin and his wife are avid supporters of the national movement to reestablish wildlife habitat on private lands and have installed 7.4 acres of conservation buffers along their stream banks.

A mixture of Switchgrass and Kobe lespedeza provided a very easy method of installing wildlife-friendly buffer strips on their farm in the Adamsville community. In addition to the buffers, they have converted 52.7 acres of upland cropland to native warm season grasses.

All practices were enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program which provide annual rental payments based on average soil rental rates.

Recently, they turned their interest to the new Northern Bobwhite Quail Habitat Initiative to install future buffers.

As Mr. Godwin contemplates retirement, these practices have not only provided wildlife habitat, reduced soil erosion and improved water quality, but have provided economic benefits as well.

